

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: January 31, 2023

TO: Councilmember Yaroslavsky
Councilmember McOske
Councilmember Raman
Councilmember Blumenfeld
Councilmember Hernandez
Energy and Environment Committee

FROM: Barbara Romero, Director and General Manager
LA Sanitation & Environment



SUBJECT: **RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BIOPHILIC CITIES NETWORK**
(COUNCIL FILE 15-0499)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Request that City Council adopt the resolution prepared by LA Sanitation & Environment to declare the City's participation in the Biophilic Cities Network.
2. Request that City Council approve the accompanying narrative statements to support the City of Los Angeles application to become a partner in the Biophilic Cities Network.

TRANSMITTALS

1. [Resolution for the City to formally join the Biophilic Cities Network.](#)
2. [Required narrative statements to support the resolution and complete the City's application to join the Biophilic Cities Network.](#)

DISCUSSION:

LA Sanitation & Environment (LASAN) submitted a report on the annual status of the City's Biodiversity efforts (CF #15-0499) dated October 14, 2022. The item was heard by the ECCEJR Committee on November 3, 2022. The committee recommended that Council approve the report. The report, and associated recommendations, were adopted by the City Council on November 22, 2022.

LASAN's report-back included a recommendation that the City Council declare its support for the Biophilic Cities Network by enacting a formal resolution stating its support for the principles of the Biophilic Cities Network and authorizing staff to secure the City of LA's membership into the network as a partner City. It also advised City Council to authorize LASAN, on behalf of the City of Los Angeles, to participate in and administer the membership in the Biophilic Cities Network and instructed LASAN with the assistance of the Office of the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) to draft a resolution for Council consideration. If adopted, the resolution and accompanying narrative will jointly serve as the official application for the City to join the Biophilic Cities Network.

The Biophilic Cities Network is a global network of partner cities, organizations, and individuals committed to planning and designing cities with abundant nature where residents have rich contact with the natural world. The Biophilic Cities Network provides an opportunity for partner cities to network, distribute resources, share lessons learned/best practices. To formally become a Biophilic Cities partner, cities need to submit an official resolution, narrative statement, and list of indicators.

The LASAN Biodiversity Team has collaborated with the CLA to draft the attached resolution, and narrative, which together serve as the formal application to join the Biophilic Cities Network. As detailed in the narrative, the City of Los Angeles intends to use the 25 metrics in the LA City Biodiversity Index as the formal list of indicators.

By adopting the Resolution, the City of Los Angeles declares its support for the principles of the Biophilic Cities Network and commits to promoting, educating, and collaborating with participating member municipalities to support urban biodiversity and create opportunities for all Angelenos to connect with nature.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

There are no annual fees or costs associated with membership in the Biophilic Cities Network and therefore no fiscal impact.

MB:BR

C: Dr. Mas Dojiri